

### Stick-Insects destroying Orchids.

A considerable number of insects of different kinds attack and damage orchids under cultivation. These are chiefly beetles, but I have now to record two pests of a different order as most injurious to orchid culture, namely two species of *Phasmidæ*, commonly known as stick insects. It was noticed that the leaves of *Dendrobium*s and other orchids were constantly being gnawed away, especially during the night, and a search disclosed that the damage was being done by two curious stick insects. Specimens were forwarded to Mr. C. O. Waterhouse, of the British Museum, who identified one as a species of *Pyloemenes* very near *P. coronatus* Westw, a native of Ceram, and *Datames Oileus* Westwood, of which there was a unique specimen from Java in the British Museum.

The *Pyloemenes* is by no means as abundant as the *Datames*. It is a cylindrical insect, about an inch and a half long, dark grey and ornamented with thorn-like tubercles.

*Datames* is about two inches long, and of a light brown colour looking like a piece of rotten wood. Its head is prolonged backwards into a kind of knot-like crest, and ornamented with short sharp tubercles. On the first joint of the thorax is also a small angular crest and there is another towards the end of the abdomen on the back. A row of small tubercles runs down each side of the body, which is very flat, so that the animal clinging with its powerful legs close to the plant is very easily overlooked. The legs are also roughened with tubercles. The antennae are finely jointed and shorter than the legs.

These animals are very voracious, and rapidly devour the leaves of any of the epiphytic orchids.

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### Notes on an Infant Maias.

Mr. Wallace in his Malay Archipelago describes an infant Maias (orang Utan) most graphically; it cut its first milk teeth shortly after he had it, but it lived only three months. Two years ago I had a Maias of the same age, and when watching it, it was impossible to help being struck with the accuracy of Mr. Wallace's observations. My Maias lived however for fifteen months, during almost the whole period of milk dentition, hence